

Attorney Docket No. 970674/LH

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT
AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): Tooru YAMAKITA

Serial No. : 08/966,912

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
AND
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R :

Submitted herewith are:

- (1) Copy of a Communication (Search Report/Official Action) issued in the counterpart European application;
- (2) Form PTO-1449. It is requested that an initialled copy of the form PTO-1449 be returned to indicate that the publications listed therein have been considered and made of record; and
- (3) Copies of the publications cited in said PTO-1449.

All of the cited publications are in the English language.

Each of the cited publications is considered relevant or material to the patentability of the present invention in view of the citation thereof in said communication and for the reasons

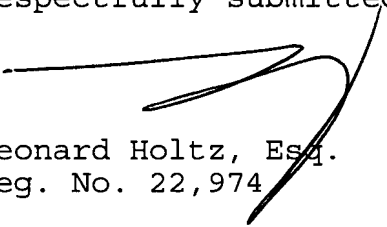
Said communication is in English, thereby satisfying the requirements for a concise explanation of relevance.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in said Communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the present Information Disclosure Statement: said Communication bears a mailing date of January 13, 1999. Therefore, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is timely under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97(e).

It is respectfully requested that the attached publications be considered and made "of record".

Respectfully submitted,


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Enc. - form PTO-1449 and references cited therein.